

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07
LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 AF-08 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 AID-05
SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 DODE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 OIC-02
L-03 /117 W

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P R 112330Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 327
INFO US MISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 83
USUN NEW YORK 351

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT OF SPAIN 0423

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ELAB, ILO, TD
SUBJECT: PREPARATIONS FOR FEBRUARY--MARCH 1977
SESSION OF ILO GOVERNING BODY (GB)

REF: (A) STATE 28274, (B) PORT OF SPAIN 124, (C) STATE 4508

1. EMBASSY OFFICER CALLED ON ACTING CHIEF OF THE
POLITICAL/ECONOMIC DIVISION (PAMELA ALLEYNE) OF THE
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS FEBRUARY 11 TO DISCUSS
ISSUES BEFORE ILO GOVERNING BODY MEETING. OFFICER
PRESENTED AIDE MEMOIRE AND ARGUMENTATION CONCERNING
ARAB-ISRAELI ISSUE AND AMENDMENT OF ARTICLE 17 CONTAINED
IN REFERENCE A. HE ASKED THAT GOTT INSTRUCT ITS REPRESENTATIVE
ON THE GOVERNING BODY TO SUPPORT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE
DIRECTOR GENERAL ON THE ARAB-ISRAELI ISSUE AND TO OPPOSE
EFFORTS TO POSTPONE ISSUE OR TO TAKE FURTHER ACTION ON IT.
HE ALSO ASKED THAT GOTT AND ITS REPRESENTATIVE GIVE
CONSIDERATION AND SUPPORT TO THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO
ARTICLE 17.

2. MRS. ALLEYNE, WHO WAS STANDING IN FOR THE ACTING
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PERMANENT SECRETARY IN THE MINISTRY, TOOK CAREFUL NOTES
ON THE PRESENTATION AND SAID THAT SHE WOULD BRING THE
MATTER TO THE ATTENTION OF THE ACTING PERMANENT SECRETARY
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. SHE SAID SHE WAS AWARE OF THE NEED FOR
SPEED SINCE THE GOTT REPRESENTATIVE WAS DUE TO LEAVE THE
FOLLOWING DAY. SHE DID NOT MAKE ANY COMMITMENT, HOWEVER,
ON WHETHER THE REPRESENTATIVE WOULD BE

INSTRUCTED OR WHAT THE INSTRUCTIONS WOULD BE.

3. EMBASSY OFFICER MADE A SIMILAR PRESENTATION TO THE PERMANENT SECRETARY IN THE T&T MINISTRY OF LABOR (GEORGE PATRICK) ON FEBRUARY 9. OFFICER ALSO REFERRED TO THE PREVIOUS CONVERSATION HE HAD HELD ON THE SUBJECT WITH PATRICK (REFERENCE B) AND SAID THAT HE HOPED GOTT REPRESENTATION WOULD OBTAIN HIS INSTRUCTIONS ON ISSUE BEFORE DEPARTING FOR MEETING.

4. PATRICK SAID HE WOULD SHOW A COPY OF THE AIDE MEMOIRE TO THE MINISTER OF LABOR IMMEDIATELY AND WOULD PRESS MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS FOR ACTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. HE WOULD NOT SAY, HOWEVER, WHETHER OR WHEN GOTT WOULD REACH DECISION ON QUESTION.

5. COMMENT: THE GOTT REPRESENTATIVE AT THE MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BODY WILL BE FRANCIS CORBIE, THE DIRECTOR OF LABOR ADMINISTRATION. SINCE IT IS PROBABLE THAT CORBIE WILL BE OPERATING WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS AND SINCE HE IS PERSONALLY SYMPATHETIC TO US POSITION, EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT DIRECT LOBBYING EFFORT BY US DELEGATION COULD BE PRODUCTIVE. EMBASSY WILL, IN THE MEANTIME, FOLLOW UP ON ITS REPRESENTATIONS TO URGE POSITIVE ACTION BY GOTT.

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